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BOROUGH OF NEATH

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1950





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By H. R. STUBBINS, M.D., D.P.H.

BOROUGH OF NEATH

MEMBERS OF THE NEATH BOROUGH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1950

Mayor	Alderman R. W. Perrott, J.P.
Deputy Mayor	Councillor J. Walter Jones.
Aldermen	Phil Howells, J. E. Emanuel, S. L. Burton, J.P., E. C. Hutchinson, T. Hughes, J.P.
Councillors	G. Howard Davies, Alfred R. Harris, W. K. Owen, R. Smith, B. Sutcliffe, E. Cledwyn-Davies, F. S. Evans, W. R. Francis, D. C. Griffiths, G. T. Rosser, W. S. Watkins, P. A. Bishop, C. J. Gaze, B. Morris, W. T. D. Phillips, J.P., E. Thomas, C. E. Williams.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman	Alderman R. W. Perrott, J.P.
Vice-Chairman	Alderman T. Hughes, J.P.
Members	All members of the Council.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR 1950

Medical Officer	Haydn R. Stubbins, M.D. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Wales).
Sanitary Inspectors	Evan Thomas, Chief Sanitary Inspector; R. T. Probert, D. J. Howells, T. G. Hopkins, Certified Meat and Sanitary Inspectors.
Clerk	D. J. Williams.

BOROUGH OF NEATH

Public Health Department,
NEATH,
Glam.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1950.

The birth rate at 15.73 per 1,000 of the population is slightly lower than in 1949 and the death rate at 13.36 of the population is also slightly higher, as you will see from the Report. Nearly three-quarters of the deaths were in persons between 60 and 90 years of age.

In view of the fact that nowadays people are living to a greater age, the problem of the care of the aged is one which is causing some concern. The Welfare Committee, it is true, does provide homes for the aged, but admission is only available for those who are in fairly good health and able to look after themselves. There are many, however, who are suffering from chronic disease, who are confined to bed in their own homes and who require skilled nursing and medical attention. Many of these should be hospitalised but, unfortunately, there are not enough beds available for the chronic sick. The Local Hospital Management Committee is aware of the conditions which prevail and is hoping to provide more of these beds in the near future. Then there is the old person who lives alone. He or she has to do the household work, and shopping, and, at times, may not feel well enough to do these things, and lastly, there is the loneliness of old age.

“And that which should accompany old age
As honour, love, obedience, troops of friends
I must not look to have.”

—Shakespeare.

Can this be true in these enlightened days? I am afraid that in many cases it is only too true. Home Helps are provided by the Local Health Authority and the W.V.S. are doing splendid work in looking after these aged people. But could not this work be taken further? I would like Ward Committees to be set up, entirely on a voluntary basis, to visit, assist and even sit up with these old folk when they are ill. There are so many ways that the declining years could be made happier and that feeling of loneliness disseminated.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

I am again happy to report that there were no maternal deaths during the year. This is the third successive year that this has been recorded. Last year in my Annual Report, I tried to explain the reasons for this satisfactory state of affairs; how the mothers of to-day are so well looked after before and during the confinement and lying-in periods. This, coupled with the advancement of modern medical knowledge and skill, has made the loss of a mother during her confinement a rare occurrence.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The infantile mortality rate has always been regarded as a good index to the Social and Health circumstances prevailing in an area. The rate is computed from the annual number of deaths of infants one year of age to every thousand births during that year. In 1950 there were 14 infantile deaths out of 507 births, thus giving an infantile mortality rate of 27.61. This is the lowest rate ever recorded in the Borough and bears very favourably with any similar area in the County. In the past the commonest causes of infantile deaths were prematurity, congenital deformities and chest infections. Of these causes, prematurity easily came first. You will notice from the statistics supplied that 33 premature children were born during the year and that only three died.

It is only during the last decade that the care and management of the premature child has acquired the importance it deserves. With our present day knowledge and equipment we can save the lives of many of these children and it has been proved conclusively that, both mentally and physically, the majority grow up to be useful citizens. The premature unit at the Neath General Hospital, with its specially trained staff and equipment, has had a great deal to do with our low mortality rate, as also has the specially trained nurses with the equipment provided by the Local Health Authority.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Although the number of notified cases and the number of deaths are slightly lower this year, the numbers are nevertheless far too high for the slightest degree of complacency.

The Public should realise that most of these cases are infectious and that children and young adults are, indeed, prone to the infection. Our nurses visit the homes and advise as to the precautions that should be taken, but in many cases the living conditions are such that it is quite impossible to carry out the advice. The cry is still for more beds in Hospitals and Sanatoria for the treatment; and more houses for the maintenance of improved condition when they are discharged.

HOUSING.

During 1950, 19 houses were completed and occupied. In 1946, when a completely new list of housing applicants was drawn up, there were 1,900 applications. In 1950, after 584 houses had been built, the number of applicants on the housing list is in the region of 2,280. The sub-committee which deals with the letting of Council houses are still working on the late 1947 applications. Only those in intimate contact with this problem of re-housing are aware of the conditions which still prevail in the Borough. The Housing Committee are meeting with difficulties in the provision of labour and materials and, to add to their troubles, they are finding difficulty in finding suitable land for building.

We wish them well, and are only comforted in the fact that they are alive to the problems and, but for circumstances beyond their control, many more houses would be built every year.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you, Mr. Mayor, and the members of the Council, for their encouragement; the Town Clerk for his guidance, and the members of the staff of the Health Department for their loyal co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

H. R. STUBBINS,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	Including Foreshore	5,040
						Excluding Foreshore	4,502
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...		£166,840
Sum produced by Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...		£648
Population—Registrar's Figures for 1950	...	...	...	...	...		32,230

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and great towns, incl: London	148 Smaller Towns Resid: Population 25,000- 50,000	London Adminis: County	NEATH
	Rates per 1,000 Home		Population		
BIRTHS.					
Live Births	15.8	17.6	16.7	17.8	15.73
Still Births	0.37	0.45	0.38	0.36	0.18
DEATHS.					
All causes	11.6	12.3	11.6	11.8	13.56
Typhoid & Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.36	0.42	0.33	0.39	0.56
Influenza	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.07	0.06
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis, in- cluding Polioencephalitis	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.46	0.49	0.45	0.48	0.46
NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected).					
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Meningococcal infection	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.03
Scarlet Fever	1.50	1.56	1.61	1.23	0.55
Whooping Cough	3.60	3.97	3.15	3.21	0.58
Diphtheria	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.18
Erysipelas	0.17	0.19	0.16	0.17	0.03
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	8.39	8.76	8.36	6.57	6.29
Pneumonia	0.70	0.77	0.61	0.50	0.21
Acute Poliomyelitis, in- cluding Polioencephalitis					
Paralytic	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.08	0.00
Non Paralytic	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.06
Food Poisoning	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.25	0.00
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
DEATHS.					
All causes under 1 year of age	29.8	33.8	29.4	26.3	27.61
Enteritis and diarrhœa under 2 years of age..	0.9	2.2	1.6	1.0	1.97
	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births				
NOTIFICATIONS CORRECTED.					
Puerperal fever and pyrexia	5.81	7.43	4.33	6.03	1.94

CAUSES OF DEATHS

Figures given by Registrar-General

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	9	7	16
Tuberculosis, other	1	2	3
Syphilitic disease	1	0	1
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	1	1
Meningococcal infections	0	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Measles	0	1	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	0	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7	4	11
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	10	0	10
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	3	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	31	17	48
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	0	0	0
Diabetes	1	4	5
Vascular lesions of nervous system	25	19	44
Coronary disease, angina	24	18	42
Hypertension with heart disease	9	4	13
Other heart diseases	35	40	75
Other circulatory diseases	16	11	27
Influenza	1	1	2
Pneumonia	10	5	15
Bronchitis	13	13	26
Other diseases of respiratory system	6	1	7
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	2	6
Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhœa	0	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	9	3	12
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	0	4
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0	0
Congenital malformations	2	1	3
Other defined and ill defined diseases	21	27	48
Motor Vehicle accidents	1	0	1
All other accidents	3	3	6
Suicide	1	1	2
Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
	—	—	—
All causes	245	192	437
	—	—	—

GLAMORGAN

(ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY)

— VITAL STATISTICS 1950

DISTRICT		Estimated Population 1949	BIRTHS		DEATHS		INFANT MORTALITY		NEONATAL MORTALITY	
			Number of Births	Rate per 1,000 Population	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Population	Deaths under 1 year	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Deaths under 4 weeks.	Rate per 1000 Live Births
England and Wales ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Administrative County ...	...	737,890	11,920	15.8	9,437	11.6	466	28.8	284	23.83
Urban Districts ...	...	537,200	8,870	16.15	7,027	12.79	358	39.09	209	23.56
Rural Districts ...	...	200,690	3,050	16.51	2,410	13.08	108	40.36	75	24.59
Health Division. Constituent Districts.										
Aberdare and	Aberdare Urban...	41,150	548	13.35	625	15.23	18	32.85	11	20.07
Mountain Ash	Mountain Ash Urban ...	31,750	514	16.19	442	13.92	25	48.64	15	29.18
Caerphilly and	Caerphilly Urban ...	34,600	769	22.23	435	12.57	42	54.62	17	22.11
Gelligaer	Gelligaer Urban ...	36,400	708	19.45	405	11.13	25	35.31	17	24.01
Mid Glamorgan	Bridgend Urban ...	14,070	236	16.77	136	9.67	9	38.14	6	25.42
	Maesteg Urban...	23,050	425	18.44	318	13.80	19	44.71	11	25.88
	Ogmore & Garw Urban	22,620	353	15.61	313	13.84	16	45.33	10	28.33
	Porthcawl Urban ...	9,454	125	11.90	122	12.90	3	24.00	3	24.00
	Penybont Rural...	34,350	543	15.81	398	11.59	24	44.20	15	27.62
Neath and	Neath M.B. ...	32,230	507	15.73	437	13.56	14	27.61	7	13.81
District	Neath Rural ...	41,450	660	15.92	529	12.76	22	33.33	16	24.24
Pontypridd and	Pontypridd Urban	39,220	600	15.30	513	13.08	31	51.67	21	35.00
Llantrisant	Llantrisant Rural ...	25,510	476	18.66	322	12.62	16	33.61	11	23.11
Port Talbot and	Glyncorrwg Urban	9,156	179	12.88	88	9.61	13	72.63	10	55.87
Glyncorrwg	Port Talbot M.B. ...	44,050	739	16.78	516	11.71	25	33.83	14	18.94
South East	Barry M.B. ...	42,120	705	16.74	480	11.40	17	24.11	11	15.60
Glamorgan	Cardiff Rural ...	37,270	462	12.40	397	10.65	14	30.30	10	21.65
	Cowbridge M.B. ...	1,090	11	10.09	17	15.60	—	—	—	—
	Cowbridge Rural ...	18,060	289	16.00	137	7.59	10	34.60	5	17.30
	Penarth Urban ...	18,420	286	15.53	240	13.03	7	24.48	5	17.48
West Glamorgan	Gower Rural ...	11,400	164	14.39	165	14.47	6	36.59	6	36.59
	Llchwyr Urban ...	25,620	363	14.17	287	11.20	12	33.06	8	22.04
	Pontardawe Rural ...	32,650	456	13.97	426	14.15	16	35.09	12	26.32
Rhondda	Rhondda Urban ...	112,300	1,802	16.05	1,655	14.72	82	45.50	43	23.86

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
GLAMORGAN COUNTY HALL, CARDIFF.

BIRTHS

The number of live births in the Borough was 507, made up of 247 males and 260 females, giving a birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population of 15.73.

Year	Birthrate	Year	Birthrate
1950	15.73	1937	14.7
1949	15.9	1936	15.5
1948	18.3	1935	15.5
1947	20.1	1934	15.1
1946	19.1	1933	13.5
1945	16.0	1932	16.0
1944	18.2	1931	14.1
1943	14.5	1930	16.8
1942	16.1	1929	16.9
1941	13.9	1928	16.7
1940	13.3	1927	17.0
1939	13.9	1926	18.2
1938	14.9	1925	22.0

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS

The total number of illegitimate births registered as referring to residents of the Borough was 8, showing a decrease of 5 compared with 1949 and giving a rate of 15.7 total live births.

The numbers of illegitimate children born in the Borough during the past ten years were:—

1940	...	8	1945	...	27
1941	...	9	1946	...	22
1942	...	14	1947	...	12
1943	...	17	1948	...	9
1944	...	15	1949	...	13
			1950	...	8

Health visitors have special instructions with regard to illegitimate children, and in all cases they have reported that conditions affecting the children and their homes have been satisfactory.

STILL-BIRTHS

The number of still births registered was 6, giving a rate of 11.7 per 1,000 live and still-births, and 0.18 per 1,000 population.

DEATHS

The number of deaths registered during the year of all ages, was 437—245 males and 192 females. This gives a death-rate of 13.56 and may be compared with previous years in the following table:—

1949	...	11.8	1944	...	12.2
1948	...	12.1	1943	...	12.4
1947	...	12.5	1942	...	11.9
1946	...	12.8	1941	...	14.7
1945	...	12.6	1940	...	13.7

The Ward Distribution of Deaths was as follows:—

North Ward	...	...	152
South Ward	...	...	153
Briton Ferry	...	...	132

The table on Page 6 gives a classification of the causes of death as recorded by the Registrar-General. Age groups are given below :—

Under 1 year ...	14	40-45 years ...	13
1-5 years ...	3	45-50 years ...	12
5-10 years ...	—	50-55 years ...	17
10-15 years ...	2	55-60 years ...	27
15-20 years ...	1	60-70 years ...	101
20-25 years ...	4	70-80 years ...	152
25-30 years ...	4	80-90 years ...	70
30-35 years ...	5	Over 90 years ...	4
35-40 years ...	8		

CANCER DEATHS

The age distribution was as follows :—

Ages		Males		Females
25-35 years ...	...	3	...	—
35-45 years ...	...	1	...	—
45-55 years ...	...	7	...	1
55-65 years ...	...	8	...	7
65-75 years ...	...	17	...	13
75-85 years ...	...	12	...	4
Over 85 years ...	...	—	...	1
Totals ...		48		26

DEATHS BY VIOLENCE

The number of deaths by violence was 9. The following table gives the causes of deaths :—

Suicide ...	...	2
Traffic Accidents...	...	1
Other violent causes ...	...	6
Total ...		9

INFANT DEATHS—CAUSE AND AGE

Cause	Under One Month.		Over One Month and under one year.		Total		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M. and F.
Congenital Deformity ...	1	—	2	—	3	—	3
Birth Injury ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Intracranial Hæmorrhage ...	2	1	—	—	2	1	3
Prematurity ...	1	1	—	—	1	1	2
Broncho Pneumonia ...	—	—	1	2	1	2	3
Marasmus ...	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Total ...	4	3	4	3	8	6	14

PREMATURE BIRTHS

The care and management of premature babies is a subject which has been neglected for many years. Authorities have shown that with proper care many of these infants can be saved and later become useful citizens. The Neath General Hospital Authority has realised this and has set up its premature baby unit. You will notice that 24 babies were prematurely born at the Hospital during the year. Another seven were born at home. When you read further that 23 of these babies still survived at the end of the month, you will have some indication of, and also an explanation for, our low infant mortality rate.

For the care and management of premature births at home, the County Health Committee have specially trained and equipped midwives, who will have complete charge of the premature infant until it attains the physical fitness of a mature child.

PREMATURE BIRTHS AND DEATHS NOTIFIED

Total Number of Premature Babies Notified during 1950:

(i) who were born at home	7
(ii) in Hospital or Nursing Home	24

Number of those born at home who were:

(i) nursed entirely at Home	4
(ii) who died during the first 24 hours... ..	1
(iii) who survived at the end of the month	6

Number of those born at Hospital or Nursing Home:

(i) who died during the first 24 hours	Nil
(ii) who survived at the end of the month	23

COMPARATIVE FIGURES OF INFANT DEATHS FOR PREVIOUS YEARS

1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22	17	17	20	22	18	30	29	35	17

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH

The chemical and bacteriological examination of material submitted by the Health Department of the Corporation is carried out by the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff. The numbers of specimen submitted during the year were:—

Swabs to be examined for the presence of Dyphtheria bacilli...	8
Milk Samples	158
Water Samples	93

NURSING IN THE HOME

The Nursing services in the Borough are now under the direction of the Local Health Authority and include Home Nursing, Midwifery, and a service which, although not directly involved in nursing, nevertheless has a great deal to do with the care and welfare of the sick—I refer to the Home Help Service.

Midwifery Service.

There were 507 births during the year, but only 40% of the births were attended by the midwives. The remaining 60% of the births took place at the Neath General Hospital. Of late years there has been a trend towards confinement in Hospital. Many mothers, of course, are advised by their own Doctor that for obstetrical reasons it would be better for them to have their babies in hospital. Others are recommended for admission because of the inadequate facilities in their own homes.

HOSPITALS

Since the implementation of the National Health Service Act, the Hospitals in the Borough are now under the control of the Regional Hospital Board and are administered by the Mid-Glamorgan Hospital Management Committee.

There are two Hospitals within the boundary of the Borough, namely, the Neath General Hospital, with 350 beds, and the Cimla Hospital with 80 beds. Tonna Children's Hospital should be included as a hospital which serves the Borough for, although it is situated outside the Borough boundary, it is nevertheless closely associated with the Neath General Hospital.

Neath General.

This is an acute General Hospital of 350 beds, with an annexe of 50 beds, to which cases of fairly long stay may be transferred. This enables more acute beds to be made available at the General Hospital. It has a first class maternity unit. The Hospital is recognised for the D.R.O.G. and the D.C.H. Medical Diplomas. It is a training school for the State Registration of Nurses, and for the first part of the Examination of the Central Midwives' Board.

Cimla Hospital.

This is a specialist Hospital for the treatment of Tuberculosis. During the last twelve months it has opened a centre for Thoracic Surgery and the results as seen by myself have been very satisfactory.

Tonna Children's Hospital.

This is the old Isolation Hospital. It is now a Children's Hospital of 94 beds. Although at present in its development stage, the Management Committee hope, as circumstances permit, to make it eventually into a complete children's unit. At present it has a pædiatric ward, an orthopædic ward, a ear, nose and throat department and an eye department.

DISINFECTION

During the year disinfection of articles of clothing and infected houses in the Borough was carried out at the homes of infected persons, by means of formaldehyde vapour.

Every case of infectious disease was visited and, where suitable, disinfection was carried out. This disinfection of contaminated articles by formaldehyde vapour has been going on for many years. In the light of our present knowledge of bacteriology I doubt very much whether it is really effective. What it really does is, that the disinfection creates such a mess that the poor housewife has, of necessity, to open all the windows and get to work with soap and scrubbing brush. This, in my opinion, is the real effective disinfection. But whether public opinion is ready for us to do away with this formaldehyde disinfection is very doubtful.

This must not be confused with the disinfection of bed-clothing and articles which have been in close contact with cases such as tuberculosis.

To be made safe they should be stoved. Arrangements are now available for these contaminated articles and clothing to be properly stoved and made safe by special treatment at Tonna Hospital.

INFECTIONS

Whooping Cough.

Although only 19 cases of whooping cough were notified, I feel that there were many more in the district. Many parents have asked me why we do not immunise against this very distressing and potentially dangerous disease. The real reason is that although many preparations are available, there is not one, at present, which we can say with confidence will produce the immunity which is being obtained with the diphtheria immunising preparation. Besides, some of the preparations which are being used set up reactions in the child which may be very alarming, to say the least of it.

Poliomyelitis.

Two cases were notified during the year. Both were of the non-paralytic type. This disease, always looked upon with dread, is becoming more frequent. We were fortunate in having only two cases. Normally the number of deaths is not numerous, but the paralysis which follows many of the cases is of great importance, because they usually remain permanently handicapped.

The ideal prevention of the disease is very difficult, because so far we are doubtful as to its mode of spread. Research is being carried out in many countries along these lines.

Measles.

There was a sharp epidemic of measles during the year and it says a great deal that there was only one death. Although looked upon with some complacency by the public, it can nevertheless be a deadly disease from the complications which may follow.

Scarlet Fever.

This infectious disease has lost much of its dread. Not only has it become milder during the last five years, but also knowing the germ which causes it, we have in the present antibiotic preparations the answer to its treatment.

It is now a rarity to have complications of heart disease, ear disease, etc., following a properly managed scarlet fever case.

Diphtheria.

Here we have a disease which is fast disappearing. You will note that there were only six notified cases during the year. There have been no deaths of the immunised since immunisation was first introduced ten years ago. A word of warning, however, is still necessary. The number of children who are being immunised is decreasing rapidly and parents must remember that they have a duty to perform to safeguard their children against this infection. Every child should be immunised during its first year of life and afterwards when it first attends school at five years of age.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Year				No. of Cases	Number
				Notified	Immunised
1940	...	...	...	98	0
1941	...	...	...	42	5
1942	...	...	...	64	0
1943	...	...	...	30	7
1944	...	...	...	33	4
1945	...	...	...	31	3
1946	...	...	...	36	6
1947	...	...	...	16	7
1948	...	...	...	19	11
1949	...	...	...	7	0
1950	...	...	...	6	2

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

The work carried on in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare includes :—

1. Health Visiting.
2. Infant consultations at the Welfare Centre.
3. Ante-natal Clinics and Visiting.
4. Ultra-violet Light Therapy for infants and expectant mothers.
5. Provision for dental treatment for expectant mothers in necessitous cases.
6. Provision of milk and vitamin products for mothers and children under five years of age.
7. Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics.

In addition, orthopædic, dental, visual, ear, nose and throat treatment is given in co-operation with the County Medical Officer.

We are fortunate in Neath in having a really modern midwifery unit, staffed by experts in this speciality. It is enough to state that no mother has died from childbirth in the Borough for the last three years.

Home Help Service.

This service, although not directly a nursing service, is closely concerned with the welfare of the sick. Women are employed, full and part-time, to look after the household when the housewife is sick at home or in hospital. It is not what I would consider a congenial job, but these Home Helps are imbued with a fine spirit of service and are doing work which, from letters received, is very much appreciated.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

The County Council who, under the Education Act, 1944, became responsible for the treatment of school children, were desirous of using our clinics as treatment centres, and so clinic arrangements for the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee were arranged as follows:—

Antenatal Clinics	Dyfed Road. Thursdays, 9.30 to 4 p.m. Hunter Street, Briton Ferry. Fridays, 9.30 a.m.
Maternity & Child Welfare	Dyfed Road. Fridays, 2.30 p.m. St. Catherine's Parish Hall, Wednesday, 2.30 p.m. Hunter Street, Briton Ferry. Tuesday, 2.30 p.m.
Ultra Violet Light Therapy	Dyfed Road Clinic. Tuesdays, 9.30 a.m.
Diphtheria Immunisation..	All Child Welfare Clinics.

HEALTH VISITING

The birth of every child in the Borough must be notified to me within 36 hours by a responsible person present at the birth, namely, the doctor or midwife. As soon as possible after the first fortnight, the child is visited by one of the Health Visitors. A note is made of the home conditions and advice given to the mother as to feeding, clothing, etc., of the child.

During the year, Health Visitors made 8,784 visits.

Each health visitor is also engaged at minor ailment clinics on two mornings in each week and at Child Welfare Clinics on two afternoons in each week. Thus they come into contact with the mothers and children at the Centres, and become aware of the advice that is given there by the Medical Officer. They are also able to follow up this advice in the subsequent visits to the home.

ATTENDANCES AT CLINICS

	First Visits	Re- Visits	Total Attendances
Dyfed Road Clinic	241	3,007	3,248
St. Catherine's Clinic ...	127	2,045	2,172
Hunter Street Clinic ...	245	3,985	4,230
	613	9,037	9,650

TUBERCULOSIS

The number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified is six less than in 1949. This is considered fairly satisfactory, especially in view of the much larger numbers examined at the Chest Clinics. It is also felt that, with the periodic visits of the Mobile X-Ray Unit and the large number of the population who take advantage of this check up, earlier care and diagnosis is now possible. The earlier the diagnosis, the earlier the treatment can begin, and better the chance of a complete cure.

Figures are given below of the new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease during the year :—

	Notification of New Cases.				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years ...	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
5-10 years ...	2	1	1	2	—	—	—	—
10-15 years ...	1	3	—	2	—	—	—	—
15-20 years ...	2	4	—	—	—	1	—	—
20-25 years ...	2	2	—	2	2	1	—	—
25-35 years ...	3	4	—	—	3	—	—	—
35-45 years ...	4	1	—	1	1	3	1	1
45-55 years ...	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55-65 years ...	—	1	1	—	3	1	—	—
Over 65 years..	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
Total ...	20	18	3	8	10	7	1	2

NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS FOR THE PAST 25 YEARS

Year	Pul. Notfics	Pul. Deaths	Non-Pul. Notifcs.	Non-Pul. Deaths
1925	37	18	29	2
1926	43	16	33	5
1927	44	19	33	2
1928	42	31	23	6
1929	55	25	27	4
1930	81	29	33	3
1931	108	23	28	5
1932	77	22	32	4
1933	44	18	29	4
1934	81	33	24	3
1935	43	13	26	4
1936	30	11	27	1
1937	41	12	20	6
1938	37	8	23	3
1939	40	9	27	4
1940	42	10	27	6
1941	44	12	31	1
1942	75	18	16	2
1943	64	16	33	3
1944	43	15	26	9
1945	69	18	22	5
1946	39	11	22	3
1947	42	10	22	3
1948	40	18	11	3
1949	44	17	11	0
1950	38	16	11	3

MATERNAL MORTALITY

The term " Maternal Mortality " relates to the deaths of mothers from conditions peculiar to pregnancy and childbirth, and is expressed as a ratio which the number bears to 1,000 (live and still) births.

Again I have to report that there were no maternal deaths during 1950.

There were no deaths in the Hospital, nor in the district. Neither were there any deaths from Puerperal Fever or other maternal causes.

This is the third successive year that I have to report this. It is very satisfying and does much credit to the antenatal clinics, the hospital, the general practitioners and midwives in the district.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Infectious Diseases.	Cases Notified			Total No. of Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hosp.	Total No. of Deaths.
Measles	203	15	1
Scarlet Fever	18	6	—
Whooping Cough	19	12	1
Erysipelas	1	—	—
Meningitis	1	1	1
Pneumonia	7	6	15
Diphtheria	6	6	—
Poliomyelitis	2	2	—
Dysentery	5	5	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply for the Borough comes from the Gnoll, Briton Ferry and Ystradfellte waterworks. From the two former the water is filtered and chlorinated, and from the latter, chlorinated only. Continuous samples were taken during the year from the three sources of supply before and after treatment. Monthly samples are taken as a routine measure for bacteriological examination.

Number of samples taken for bacteriological examination at houses, schools, hospitals, factories and public houses during the year were :—

From Springs	...	...	...	...	...	85
From Swimming Pool	...	...	...	...	...	8

CURTAILMENT OF WATER SUPPLY

The supply was curtailed for twelve hours from 7th July to 29th July, 1950.

RAINFALL

Gnoll	...	...	...	...	60.52 inches
Cimla	...	...	...	...	65.23 „
Briton Ferry (Cefn Cwrt)	...	...	...	...	56.66 „



BOROUGH OF NEATH

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1950

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

NEATH,
September, 1951.

To: THE MAYOR and CORPORATION of the BOROUGH OF NEATH
Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have pleasure in submitting a Report of the work carried out in Sanitary Department during 1950:

STAFF

Mr. EVAN THOMAS, appointed Sanitary Inspector on the 1st January, 1924, and Chief Sanitary Inspector on the 24th November, 1935.

(Certificated Sanitary and Meat Inspector).

Mr. R. T. PROBERT, appointed Sanitary Inspector on the 1st March, 1936.

(Certificated Sanitary and Meat Inspector).

Mr. D. J. HOWELLS, appointed Sanitary Inspector on the 1st January, 1948.

(Certificated Sanitary and Meat Inspector).

Mr. T. G. HOPKINS, appointed Temporary Sanitary Inspector on the 1st February, 1947, and Sanitary Inspector on the 1st February, 1949.

(Certificated Sanitary and Meat Inspector).

GENERAL CLERK, Public Health Department — Mr. D. J. WILLIAMS.

(Transferred from Borough Engineer's Department, 22nd May, 1950).

HOUSING INSPECTION

Number of houses inspected for defects under the Public Health and	
Housing Acts	1,377
Number of visits of inspection in respect of same	4,015
Number of houses found not in all respects to be fit for human	
habitation	472
Number of houses rendered fit after service of Notices, including 97	
which were in course of compliance at the end of 1949	468
Number of houses subject to Notices at the end of 1950, the time given	
having not expired	101

DEFECTS FOUND DURING INSPECTION

	Premises affected
DRAINS: Defective, absence of, defectively constructed, defective fittings	122
WATER CLOSETS: Defective fittings, broken and defective pans, structural defects and dilapidations of closet buildings ...	93
WATER SUPPLY: No supply, defective and insufficient supply, defective fittings	71
PAVING OF YARD AREAS: Defective yard paving, defective dish to gullies	87
GENERAL HOUSE REPAIRS: Dampness, defective roofs, rain-water troughings and downpipes, defective internal plastering, walls, woodwork, light and ventilation, defective firegrates and chimneys, absence of or defective food stores and coal stores	492
OTHER NUISANCES: Insanitary stables, pig styes and out-buildings, accumulation of refuse or manure, presence of rats and mice, smoke nuisance from domestic chimneys, house and trade refuse	211

All the defects were dealt with under the Public Health Acts.

During the year, 652 complaints, of which 171 were written, were made in respect of various nuisances.

NEW HOUSES

The number of new houses erected during the year:

(a) By the Local Authority—Permanent prefabricated dwellings	...	0
Traditional type	... ..	19
(b) By other Bodies or Persons	... ..	6
		—
Total	... ..	25
		—

DISINFECTIONS DURING THE YEAR

After cases of Scarlet Fever or Diphtheria	... ..	26
After cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever and Poliomyelitis	... ..	1
After deaths and removals (Tuberculosis)	... ..	9
After deaths from Cancer	... ..	5
		—
		41
		—

DISINFESTATIONS DURING THE YEAR

Slum houses during displacement	... ..	0
Overcrowded houses during de-crowding	... ..	0
Council houses, reported infested	... ..	1
Privately owned houses, reported infested	... ..	9
		—
		10
		—

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:

Premises	Inspections	Notices
Factories with Mechanical Power	41	6
Factories without Mechanical Power	72	7
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering constructions, but not including out-workers' premises)	39	3
	—	—
	152	16
	—	—

Defects found:

	Defects	Remedies
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):		
(a) Insufficient	1	1
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	3	3
(c) Other Offences	12	12
	—	—
	16	16
	—	—

A list of three outworkers was received during the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

Applications were received at the beginning of the year for the re-registration of five Common Lodging Houses, all of which were situated in the Borough, as follows:

Name of Keeper	Address	No. of	
		Reg. Rooms	Reg. L'gers
Mrs. Ann Sandham ...	1 Cattle St., Neath	3	47
Mrs. Ann Sandham and Deputy			
—Wm. Sandham ...	1 Glamorgan St., Neath	6	16
Evan Rosser ...	68 Water St., Neath	3	15
Ernest Powell ...	11 The Parade, Neath	3	11
D. W. Thomas ...	4 Commercial St., Neath	12	45
		32	134

On the 31st December, 1950, it was found that 106 men, 5 women and one child were present out of the total permitted number of 134 Lodgers, and there was no overcrowding during the year. It was necessary to serve several Notices in respect of minor nuisances, which were duly complied with.

The establishments, now representing only one-third of their original number, and situated in the old portion of the North Ward are, by reason of age, structure and lay-out, not entirely satisfactory. There appears to be no general desire to improve the premises and facilities to lodgers, and it is doubtful whether this could be done without infringing the Building Byelaws. However, such places continue to meet a requirement of the Borough until such time as other arrangements are available, and as they were all kept as satisfactory as possible, it was decided to re-register the five premises for the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT AND REGULATIONS

During the year 201 samples of food and drugs were submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis:

Formal				Beer	12
				Informal	
Black Currant and Aniseed				Milk	105
Balsom	1			Assorted Jams	12
Indigestion Mixture	1			Mince Meat	2
Liquid Paraffin	1			Honey	1
Syrup of Figs	1			Lemon Cheese	1
Epsom Salts	1			Meat Paste	2
Dried Sage	1			Fish Paste	1
Ground Nutmeg	1			Vinegar	6
Mixed Spice	1			Sauces	3
Fruit Flavouring Essences	4			Mixed Cut Peel	1
Gelatine Powder	1			Glaced Cherries	1
Ryvita	1			Rice	1
Weetabix	1			Sago	1
Grape Nuts	1			Vermicelli	1
Porage Oats	1			Cake Flour Mixture	3
Baby Cereal	1			Sponge Pudding Mix	1
Barley Flakes	1			Self-raising Flour	3
Farinoca	1			Beef Sausages	6
Cornflower	2			Flour confectionery (12	
Macaroni	2			assorted in lots of 3)	12
Stoned Dates	1			Total	189
Coffee and Chicory Essence	1				
Summary: Formal Samples				12	
Informal Samples				189	
TOTAL ALL SAMPLES				201	

Ratio of Samples to Population :—

					Per 1,000 population
Milk Samples (105)	...	...	...	...	3.18
Other Samples (96)	...	...	...	...	2.91
All Samples (201)	...	...	...	...	6.09

ADULTERATED SAMPLES

Series No. (Informal)	Article	Nature of Adulteration	Observations
49N	Milk	3.0% Extraneous Water	Vendor Warned
123N	Sponge Mix	Infested with Meal Mites	See Below
124N	Cake Flour	Infested with Meal Mites	"
180N	Beef Sausage	20% Deficient Meat	"
(Formal)			
44N	Beer	Contained an undesirable amount of copper	"

It will be observed that, of the 105 samples of milk, one only, which contained 3.0% of extraneous water, was adversely reported upon. The milk generally was of satisfactory composition. Included in the milk samples were 35 obtained in course of delivery, supplied to the County Council on school contract, and two to hospitals under contract, all of which were satisfactory.

There were no requests to sample "in course of delivery" nor "appeal to the cow" received from vendors during the year. Sampling was carried out throughout the year.

The samples of Sponge Mixture and Cake Flour were infested with Meal Mites (*Tyroglyphus Farinæ*) and the remainder of the stock, in each case, was withdrawn from sale and disposed of as animal food.

The six samples of Sausages were found to be free from preservatives with a meat content as under:

Series No.	Description	Total Meat	Preservative
180N	Beef Sausage	40.0%	Absent
181N	do.	58.0%	do.
182N	do.	55.0%	do.
183N	do.	51.0%	do.
184N	do.	53.0%	do.
185N	do.	60.0%	do.

The specified meat content of Beef Sausages should be not less than 50.0%. One of the samples, 180N, was 20% deficient, and as the samples were taken informally as a test, the matter was pursued with satisfactory results. All the samples complied with the Preservatives Regulations.

The sugar confectionery was certified to be free from deleterious material and prohibited colouring matter.

The samples of Fancy Pastries were free from Sulphites and mineral oil, with fat contents ranging from 19% to 39%.

The beers were sampled for preservatives and metallic contamination. None contained preservative, but one was certified as containing an undesirable amount of copper (1/6th grain per gallon). The attention of the Brewers was called to same, who replied that the trouble had probably arisen from the installation of new copper-lined vessels and the use of a new cleaning product. They later reported that they had ceased such a drastic abrading cleaning of the vessels and that further analysis of their Bitter Beer had been satisfactory.

Summary of samples purchased, and number adulterated and the number in which proceedings were taken during 1950:

Sample	No. Taken	% Adulterated	Case Proceedings
Milk	105	0.95	0
Other Foods	96	4.16	0

BOROUGH ANALYST

Mr. D. Evans Jones, of the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff, was appointed as from 12th October, 1950, the Borough Public Analyst.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, Etc., IN FOOD) REGULATIONS

Series No.	Description	Preservative
16N	Edible Gelatine Powder	64 parts Sulphur Dioxide per Million
182N	Beef Sausages	192 parts Sulphur Dioxide per Million

REGISTERED BUTTER FACTORIES

Date of Registration	Situation of Factory	Occupier
26th January, 1937	15a Orchard Street, Neath	W. Elliott

ARTIFICIAL CREAM

There was no manufacture of artificial cream for sale carried on in the Borough, such being sold only in unopened receptacles, as received from the manufacturers. It is difficult to obtain, but its use in bakehouses in the making of flour confectionery, and at cafes in the preparation of trifles, etc., is very much on the increase.

CONDENSED AND DRIED MILK REGULATIONS

During routine inspections of condensed and dried milk stocks, no case of incorrect description was discovered.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT

The provision of the Act and the various "Orders" made thereunder, were almost completely under suspension. Those which could be enforced were observed and it was anticipated that it may be possible to again put the various "Orders" into operation next year.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

The following Licences to retail graded milk within the Borough were in operation during 1950:

Tuberculin Tested	Tuberculin Tested	Pasteurised	Sterilised	Total
4	8	15	7	34

It is to be noted that 34 Licences were issued, as compared with 11 for 1949, and it is encouraging that any grade of milk is obtainable in the Borough, although it has not yet been declared a "specified area" i.e. one in which only graded milks may be sold, but we are rapidly reaching the stage when no other milk will be available. Producer licences for the sale of graded milks are issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and other Licences by yourselves as a Food and Drugs Authority.

MILK AND DAIRIES

The number of producers registered in the Borough for the sale of milk are 12, having an average of 250 cows in milk, as follows:

	1948	1949	1950
Producer—wholesalers	7	10	9
Producer—retailers	8	5	3
Producer—stock rearing only	0	0	3
	—	—	—
	15	15	15
	—	—	—

In 1939, there were 21 producers of milk for sale and it will be observed that in 1950 there were 12, showing a reduction of three from 1949. One only is licensed for the production of Tuberculin Tested milk, although the remainder have been strongly advised to consider doing so.

The number of distributors operating during the year was 32, as under:

(a) Producer—retailers resident outside the Borough	...	...	...	...	6
(b) Producer—retailers resident in the Borough	...	...	...	...	3
(c) Retailers (only) resident in the Borough	...	...	...	...	15
(d) Retailers (only) resident outside the Borough	...	...	...	...	8
					<hr/>
					32
					<hr/>

There were 102 registered retailers in 1939 and there has been a rapid decrease, due chiefly to the transfer of businesses of several retailers and producer-retailers to the large factory concerns.

INSPECTION OF DAIRY CATTLE

The State Veterinary Service has been responsible for the routine inspection of cattle on Dairy Farms since April, 1948. It has been the practice for many years to notify all cases of Advanced Tuberculosis discovered during Meat Inspection at the Public Slaughterhouse. During 1950, 87 notifications were forwarded to the Divisional Veterinary Officer, in respect of 81 cows, 3 heifers, 1 bull, 1 steer and 1 calf. Included in the number of cows was one from a local farm which had been placed under the Tuberculosis Order.

EXAMINATION OF MILK FOR TUBERCLE BACILLI

Twenty-seven samples of locally produced milk were submitted during 1950, to the Public Health Laboratory for Tubercle Bacilli examination, made up of 21 routine and 6 repeat samples, all of which gave negative results. It was possible to bulk sample each herd which produced milk for sale in the Borough and for herds outside which retailed raw milk within the Borough, at least once during the year.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

During the year, 131 samples of milk were collected and submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory, as under:

Description	No. Submitted	No. Satisfactory	No. Unsat.
Ungraded	25	22	3
Tuberculin Tested	2	2	0
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised	12	12	0
Pasteurised	43	42	1
Pasteurised (School Contract)	35	33	2
Pasteurised (Hospital Contract)	2	2	0
Sterilized	12	12	0
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
	131	125	6
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>

The results indicate the percentage of unsatisfactory samples to be:

Raw Milks	...	12.00%
Heat Treated Milks	...	2.83%
Total—All Milks	...	4.58%

The percentage of unsatisfactory samples compares very favourably with the results over 1939—1950:

Period	Samples Examined	Number Unsatisfactory	Percentage Unsatisfactory
1939	96	21	21.8
1940	89	18	20.2
1941	104	38	36.5
1942	107	39	36.4
1943	113	37	32.7
1944	111	29	26.1
1945	97	30	30.9
1946	110	27	24.5
1947	122	31	25.4
1948	116	25	21.5
1949	127	18	14.1
1950	131	6	4.58

It will be observed that six samples of the 131 submitted for examination, or 4.58% only, were certified as being unsatisfactory. The results, which cover the milk supply of the Borough, are highly satisfactory. The unsatisfactory samples were sub-standard as to keeping quality and all the heat treated milks showed complete pasteurisation or sterilisation. School supplies, all of which were pasteurised, were obtained from County Council schools and hospital supplies from local institutions.

An analysis of the quarterly returns shows:

	Submitted	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
First Quarter	35	35	0
Second Quarter	34	34	0
Third Quarter	34	31	3
Fourth Quarter	28	25	3
	<hr/> 131	<hr/> 125	<hr/> 6

WATER SUPPLY

During 1950, 93 samples—90 Bacteriological and 3 Chemical—were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. Of these, 83 were of drinking water from the town supplies, 2 from private wells, and 8 from the Gnoll Swimming Pool. The supply was satisfactorily maintained throughout the year. No case of sickness attributable to water contamination was reported, although two special samples were examined as the possible cause of intestinal trouble at one residence, but were certified as being satisfactory. All the town supplies are from three sources, viz. Briton Ferry, Gnoll and Ystradfellte Reservoirs, the last mentioned being purchased. The first two supplies are filtered and chlorinated, and the Ystradfellte chlorinated only. The fresh water supply at Briton Ferry Dock is from the town mains, is filtered and chlorinated and all precautions in the care of equipment, etc., are taken. In this connection, 14 samples were collected in the Briton Ferry Port area, 4 were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory and 10 to the Beck Laboratory, the latter by the Port Health Authority, all being satisfactory.

MEAT INSPECTION

The control of fat-stock and meat supply commenced in January, 1940, and continued throughout the year. Neath Mart is the collecting centre for live-stock, the Neath Public Slaughterhouse is centralised for the Borough and Rural District, and, in addition, for other areas known as "export."

The duties of Meat Inspection are carried out by your Sanitary Inspectors, who are certified Meat Inspectors. Slaughtering was carried on continuously and complete inspection maintained, irrespective of evening, Saturday afternoon or Sunday work. The requisite records were kept of animals slaughtered, carcasses and offal condemned and the Ministry of Food's instructions strictly obeyed.

In consequence of control, the Public Slaughterhouse only was in use, no other slaughterhouse now being in existence. The management is by an official of the Ministry of Food. All animals are slaughtered by humane methods—Captive Bolt Pistols and Electric Stunners being used. There are 28 (twenty-eight) licensed Slaughtermen, 23 of whom were employed full-time at Slaughterhouses.

The number of animals slaughtered during 1950 was as follows:

Cattle (excluding cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
2,520	2,997	32,714	21,189	2,040	61,460

There was a slight decrease in the total animals killed. Cwrt Herbert Slaughterhouse, which had been closed since May, 1945, was re-opened in October, 1950, and the decrease in sheep killing was attributed to this.

TABLE OF CONDEMNED MEAT

The undermentioned carcasses and edible offal were found to be unfit for human food:

	Cattle	Sheep	Calves	Pigs
Carcasses complete	304	61	375	14
Heads only	38	0	0	0
Tongues only	2	0	0	0
Heads and Tongues	562	62	375	51
Livers	3700	2749	79	26
Part Livers	330	0	0	0
Hearts	378	0	2	2
Tails	307	0	0	0
Thick Skirts	449	0	0	0
Lungs	2784	1849	14	13
Melts	567	0	0	0
Plucks	0	65	382	30
Udders	2350	0	0	0
Gut	1320	60	382	104
Tripe	159	0	0	0
Parts of carcasses	5322lbs.	129lbs.	0	200lbs.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle (excluding Cows)		Sheep and Lambs		Pigs
	Cows	Calves	Lambs		
Number Killed	2520	32714	21189		2040
Number Inspected	2520	32714	21189		2040

All Diseases Except Tuberculosis :

	Cattle (excluding Cows)		Sheep and Lambs		Pigs
	Cows	Calves	Lambs		
Whole carcasses condemned	4	138	364	61	10
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	392	1195	481	4003	147
Percentage of No. affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	15.7	44.4	2.5	19.1	7.7

Tuberculosis Only :

	Cattle (excluding Cows)		Sheep and Lambs		Pigs
	Cows	Calves	Lambs		
Whole carcasses condemned	5	157	11	0	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	332	806	29	0	82
Percentage of No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis ..	18.9	32.1	.12	0	4.2

In addition, 367lbs. Imported Beef, 39lbs. Imported Mutton, 28lbs. Imported Lamb, 80lbs. Imported Pork, 528lbs. Corned Beef and 8lbs. Corned Mutton were condemned for unsoundness at the Distributing Centre. The instructions of the Ministry of Food (Circular M.F. 10/49) on noting the Brand, Origin and Weight of imported meat was complied with.

It will be observed that 304 carcasses of Beef, 375 carcasses of Veal, 61 carcasses of Mutton, 14 carcasses of Pork and a large quantity of offal were condemned during the year. Of the cattle slaughtered, 54 per cent. were cows as compared with: 1949, 61 per cent.; 1948, 55 per cent.; 1947, 62 per cent.; 1946, 71 per cent.; 1945, 53 per cent.; and 2 per cent. in 1939. The beef was generally of moderate quality, and the policy of "end of the year cleaning up of unthrifty herds" was carried out, as previously.

Included in the 2,040 pigs killed at the Slaughterhouse were 26 baconers for private consumers and, in addition, 76 baconers were examined at home, having been killed on private premises.

The boning department was active for the greater part of the year, and carcasses were received from districts West of Bridgend.

Extensions and improved facilities at the Slaughterhouse were further progressed, which included the fixing of a cattle-stunning pen, the provision of an electric saw, and plans were prepared for extended covered lairage.

The Ministry of Food, in 1948, called attention to the cases of Measly Bladder Worm (*Cysticercus Bovis*) infestation of cattle reported from various parts of the country. During the year, 10 cases were discovered during meat inspection at the Slaughterhouse. The consumption of untreated Measly Beef may give rise to Tape Worm (*Tænia Saginata*) in man. Twenty-one cases were found during 1948, 1949 and 1950, the particulars of which are as follows:

Year	Collecting Centre	Class of Animal	Number of Animal	Location
1948	Neath	Heifer	180	Right Cheek
1949	Cardigan	Cow	313	Right Cheek
"	Lampeter	Cow	889	Left Cheek
"	Newcastle Emlyn	Cow	747	Right Cheek
"	Newcastle Emlyn	Bull	988	Thick Skirt and Left Rump
"	Axminster	Cow	923	Left Cheek
"	Lampeter	Cow	595	Right Cheek
"	Llandilo	Steer	412	Right and Left Cheek
"	Whitland	Heifer	306	Right and Left Cheek
"	Stiff Cross	Cow	202	Left Cheek
"	Hasguard	Cow	787	Left Cheek
1950	Llandyssul	Heifer	456	Heart
"	Newcastle Emlyn	Cow	184	Heart
"	St. Clears	Cow	817	Heart and Right Cheek
"	Langport	Steer	861	Right Cheek
"	Langport	Cow	865	Left Cheek
"	Llandilo	Cow	665	Heart
"	Aberystwyth	Cow	707	Right Cheek
"	Neath	Heifer	189	Right Cheek
"	Llandilo	Cow	781	Right Cheek
"	Llandilo	Steer	704	Left Cheek

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED DURING PERIOD 1940-1950

	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Cattle	2053	1354	1007	1591	1450	1641	1667	1761	1477	1530	2520
Cows	690	759	624	619	923	1849	4179	2963	1793	2434	2997
Calves	1334	1789	2473	2884	6297	13361	31212	31909	27891	29547	32714
Sheep	27911	23535	20833	22758	22829	19491	21988	16073	23325	27649	21189
Pigs	3037	1030	627	623	230	427	405	63	676	1156	2040
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	35025	28467	25609	28484	31729	36769	59451	52769	55162	62316	61460
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

WHOLE CARCASSES CONDEMNED DURING PERIOD 1940-1950

	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Cattle	8	14	19	18	36	8	9	6	6	8	9
Cows	29	29	27	37	69	270	624	321	153	241	295
Calves	6	9	7	9	13	50	222	264	237	236	375
Sheep	24	27	12	19	15	28	26	26	19	47	61
Pigs	9	4	3	4	6	3	4	2	10	13	14
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	76	83	68	87	139	379	885	619	425	545	754
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

MEAT REGULATIONS 1924-1948

The Regulations were generally well observed. The chief cause of complaint was the unsatisfactory handling of meat and overalls not always in condition, and it was necessary on several occasions to warn offenders. Vehicles used in the conveyance of meat were not maintained, particularly the floors and coverings, in a clean state. There was some improvement following action taken by Depot Managers of the Ministry of Food.

BUTCHERS' SHOPS

There were 46 premises in use as Butchers' Shops—34 as shops proper and 12 as stalls in the enclosed market, 36 of which are family businesses and the remainder are several shops of the multiple firms. It was necessary to call attention of the occupiers of several of the premises to the need of maintaining decoration. All the shops have means, or have means available, of refrigeration for storing meat and smalls, and substantial progress has been made in the provision of washing facilities having hot water arrangements. The Minister of Food, in 1949, instructed his Inspectors and Officers to report to local authorities cases of irregularities noticed by them during manufacture, storage or distribution of meat and meat products, and in this connection no report was received.

OTHER PREMISES WHERE FOOD IS SOLD, STORED OR PREPARED FOR SALE

1. BAKEHOUSES:

There were 22 bakehouses in use during the year, the same as for 1949, with four changes in ownership. They were engaged in the production of bread and flour confectionery, and provide for part of the population, the remainder being made up by firms outside the area. The trade does not employ many persons, about 150 being engaged in baking, serving and delivery, of which 20 are boys and 40 are women. Adequate sanitary accommodation and washing facilities are provided, and attention was called to minor defects which were made good. Attention was called to the need, at all times, of personal cleanliness, particularly of the hands and overall clothing. Progress was made in improvements and alterations and, unfortunately, space restricted extensions of several premises, although there was a desire to do so. The slicing and wrapping of bread was carried out at several of the bakehouses, where machines for the purpose are installed. No serious complaints of pest infestation were found, spraying with insecticides was generally resorted to, spraying all the premises were supplied with water from the town's mains, and test samples were collected from several during the year.

2. AERATED WATER WORKS:

The four factories were fully employed in the manufacture of aerated waters, and at three, vinegar and gravy browning were also prepared. Building improvements were carried out at two of the premises, and at all times during inspection the establishments were found to be satisfactory. The water used was from the town's mains, samples of which, taken at the premises, were satisfactory.

3. ICE-CREAM SHOPS:

There were 85 premises, 9 of which are factories, covering the whole of the Borough, registered for the sale of ice-cream, during 1950. The majority retailed the product of national manufacturers in the seasons and any other supplementary supply they were able to obtain. Storage and methods of sale were generally satisfactory, and the few who enter the area and sell from vehicles were found to be registered. Attention was given to medical history, particularly recent illnesses, and methods of ablution. In all sampling an ice container is used, so that low temperature is maintained before delivery to the laboratory, in accordance with instructions.

The methods of examination are experimental, and the grading provisional, and it is recommended that only consistent offenders should be proceeded against.

The Laboratory examination for 1947, 1948, 1949 and 1950 are given below:

Year	Number Submitted	Number Grade 1	Number Grade 2	Number Grade 3	Number Grade 4
1947	30	10	2	8	10
1948	42	13	6	9	14
1949	50	25	11	8	6
1950	42	18	16	5	3

The provisional Regulations interpret the above as:

Year	Number Submitted	Number Satisfactory	Number Fairly Satisfactory	Number Unsatisfactory	Number Very Unsatisfactory
1947 ...	30	10	2	8	10
1948 ...	42	13	6	9	14
1949 ...	50	25	11	8	6
1950 ...	42	18	16	5	3

An examination of 1950 sampling of ice-cream shows that 5 out of 18 were unsatisfactory for the Quarter, April/June, 2 out of 12 for July/September, and 1 out of 12 for October/December. Compared with 1947, 1948 and 1949, an improvement is shown, the percentages of unsatisfactory samples were: 1947, 60 per cent.; 1948, 54 per cent.; 1949, 28 per cent.; and 1950, 19 per cent.

Copies of all certificates, which included the fat content, were sent to the Ministry of Food, as instructed. The Ministry's special attention was called to several samples of low fat content, the trade having agreed with the Ministry that it need not be less than 2.5 per cent. A chemical standard for ice-cream was considered to be necessary, and one was promised for 1951.

4. FISH FRYING BUSINESSES:

There were 26 premises fitted out for the purpose of the preparation and sale of fried fish and chipped potatoes, but only 23 operated throughout the year. At one of the shops the business of preparing and packing potato crisps, on a fairly extensive scale, was carried out. It was necessary to serve several Notices in respect of re-decoration, disposal of waste and disrepair of outbuildings used as preparation rooms. Improvements were made in several of the premises, the waste was disposed of almost daily for animal feeding, and a further change was made to gas-heating. Fish was received fresh daily, and only Cetton-seed Oil, Ground-nut Oil and Dripping were used as frying fats. Business was fair, and with the exception of Fair week, there were no mobile shops seen.

5. FISH SHOPS AND HAWKERS:

The thirteen premises for the sale of fish were regularly inspected, and of these, six sold fish exclusively, one sold fresh fish in addition to cooked fish, five sold a certain quantity of dried preserved fish in addition to the main business of fruit and vegetables, and one a Departmental Stores. Conditions, generally, were found to be satisfactory, but it was necessary to call attention to minor sanitary defects, such as stained walls, broken bins, condition of yard areas and maintenance of washing facilities. Fish hawkers were almost absent, and no complaints were received of any irregular conduct on their part. The arrangements made between the trade and the Sanitary Department as to soundness of fish received, continued satisfactorily.

6. HOTELS, RESTAURANTS, CAFES & CANTEENS:

These establishments were regularly visited and inspected, particularly as to their cleanliness, methods of preparing, storing and serving food, disposal of waste and condition of the buildings, drainage and sanitary conveniences. In this respect, a special and detailed inspection of all the premises was carried out in the month of August. There were two hotels, one with a modern and well equipped kitchen, and the other requires to be reconstructed, but is always well kept; both are open to serve the general public. It was mentioned that the "Waverley" may be converted into a modern hotel.

The thirty restaurants and cafes served the general public with meals almost continuously throughout the year. Improvements in kitchens and dining-rooms were made, cleanliness was generally observed, but it was necessary to call attention to the need of certain re-decoration and improved washing facilities and sanitary accommodation. Refrigeration for the preservation of perishable foods is available. Ice-cream was sold, both for consumption on and off the premises.

There were twenty canteens in use at the larger works and factories. Cleanliness was generally observed, but attention was called to redecorate certain of the buildings. Most of the premises are well equipped, and the poor structure referred to in the 1949 report, and used by the Omnibus Company, has been closed. Disposal of waste is to local pig-keepers, and is satisfactorily attended to, and the attention of all persons was directed to the provisions of Orders relating to the boiling of swill. There were no complaints of vermin infestation, insecticides are generally applied, and the Council were commended for providing a rodent control service.

7. GENERAL PROVISION SHOPS, STALLS AND STORES:

The following foodstuffs were condemned:

72lb. Cheese	16lb. Sweets
40lb. Bacon	24 Bars Chocolate
31lb. Sausages	509 Blocks Ice Cream
360 Eggs	1 Gallon Ice Cream
156 Scotch Pancakes	1 Gallon American Chow
576 Crumpets	1 Tin Cocoa
11lb. Cake	132 Packets French Cheese
165 Packets Quaker Oats	3 Tins Chicken
132lb. Flour	14 Bottles Sauce
31 Packets Cake Flour	12 Bottles Salad Cream
31 Packets Sponge Mixture	3 Tins Peanut Butter
60 Packets Cake Mixture	288 Packets Jelly
30 Packets Scone Mixture	20lb. Cooked Ham
140lb. Oatmeal	209 Tins Meat
3 cwt. Meal	214 Tins Milk
172 Chocolate Cones	93 Tins Jam
2 cwt. Rice	140 Tins Fruit
166lb. Fish	588 Tins Vegetables
137 Tins of Fish	

There was a satisfactory understanding with the local Food Office and the Borough Traders. In all cases the Ministry's instructions as to salvage were obeyed and certificates for condemnation issued to those concerned. The amounts and variations of foodstuffs condemned appears to be high, but the Borough is a large shopping centre, with market and stores and a rationed population far in excess of its population. The cake confectionery was contaminated by rats and mice during transit, and the attention of the carriers was called to same. The cake and sponge mixture together with most of the cereals were infested with meal mites, and the portions of ice-cream had softened out through the breaking down of refrigeration.

GENERAL INSPECTION

1. SHOPS ACTS:

The duties of the Local Authority for the purposes of the Shops Act and Regulations are performed by the Inspector of Weights and Measures since the 1st July, 1949, and there is satisfactory co-operation between the two Departments in this connection. It was necessary to call attention to improved sanitary accommodation and other matters in the interests of the health and comfort of shop workers.

2. HAIRDRESSERS' ESTABLISHMENTS:

A special inspection of the 37 hairdressers' establishments was made to check up on the standard of cleanliness, methods of discharge of waste water, storage of soiled papers and hair pending disposal, the sterilising of appliances, and as to any changes of occupation or the opening of any new places. The general standard of cleanliness was good, cloths and towels were in full supply, special care was taken in the cases of skin trouble, and these special visits over a number of years are having effect. It was observed that there was great improvement in many respects and the trade was to be complimented.

3. OFFENSIVE TRADES:

Consent was given to the establishment of four Offensive Trades, three for the trade of Rags and Bone Dealer and one for a Gut Scraper. These are situated at the Latt (Foner and Co.); Bankside (D. Price); Victoria Yard, The Green (W. Waters); and the Public Abattoir (W. Gabriel). They were kept under continuous supervision as the nature of the businesses gives rise to complaints. They serve a useful and necessary purpose in every community and are the means of bringing offensive matter of this kind to centres where it is sorted out and properly disposed of. It was necessary to take action to stop an attempt to establish a new Rag and Bone business, and an "Abatement Notice" was served in respect of accumulating refuse.

4. TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, Etc.

The area was singularly free, with the exception of one case, of such structures being used as dwellings. During fairs and circuses held in the restricted area of the fair-field, a number of movable vans are permitted to be occupied, and men and women conveniences are provided and a direct supply of drinking water made available. The assistance of the Police Department in their regulation is appreciated.

5. RENT & MORTGAGE INTEREST (RESTRICTIONS) ACTS

No application was received during 1950 for a Certificate of the Sanitary Authority as to the "state of repair" of dwelling houses.

6. SANITARY ACCOMMODATION OF CINEMAS AND BILLIARD HALLS:

There are five cinemas in the Borough: Gnoll, Empire and Windsor in Neath, and the Lodge and Kinema in Briton Ferry, with a total seating accommodation for 5,362 persons. The sanitary arrangements were well maintained and kept clean at all times. The renewal of seats at the three Neath places has been completed and defective floor covering is being repaired. Arrangements were also being considered at the Lodge and Kinema with regard to improved seating. It was necessary to serve two Notices in respect of dirty main walls, requesting cleansing of same.

An inspection was made of the Public Billiard Halls as to cleanliness of premises and sanitary conveniences. The sanitary conveniences are adequate and kept clean, but attention had to be drawn to the condition of walls, and re-decoration was carried out.

7. SANITARY CONVENIENCES OF SCHOOLS:

The Public Schools are under the control and supervision of the County Council. There are two private schools at which are taught commercial subjects, the buildings are sound and have modern conveniences. The supply of milk to all the schools and school kitchens is pasteurised, and the water supply is from the town's mains. During the year, 35 samples of school milk were submitted for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis, with satisfactory results. A special report on the condition of school kitchens was submitted to the Medical Officer of Health. The Gnoll Swimming Pool was well patronised by scholars during the season.

Every assistance was given to the County Council in rodent control of their schools and kitchens.

8. LICENSED PREMISES:

The Public Houses and Registered Clubs were specially inspected during the year. The accommodation has greatly improved, and progress was noted in re-decoration, repair and sanitary conveniences for men and women. Notices were served on occupiers of several houses calling attention to minor defects and better supervision of urinals. The clubs were generally satisfactory. Special facilities for the cleansing of glasses has been installed at several of the houses.

9. RATS AND MICE INFESTATIONS:

Rodent control during the first Quarter of 1950 was in accordance with Circular N.S.19 as extended by Circular N.S.21, the Council having decided to accept the Scheme and the prescribed conditions were complied with.

The Pests Act, 1949, came into force on the 1st April, 1950, and replaced all other Acts and Orders. It covers infestation by rats, mice and insect pests which destroy our food supply. The Act does not make it compulsory to charge services to dwelling-houses, which is not commendable in every circumstance. It places the responsibility upon the local authority, and the Council decided in October, 1950, not to charge dwelling-houses, and it is significant that following its decision, there was a great increase in complaints from that source. However, where it is considered there has been neglect on the premises, the Council will decide whether the service should be free or not. All business premises are fully charged for services.

The following is a summary of the premises treated and particulars of baiting, with results, during the year:

Business Premises	...	...	48	Baits Laid	...	...	...	3317
Private Dwellings...	...	...	26	Baits Taken	...	...	...	2000
Corporation Property	...	...	53	Dead Rats found	...	...	...	609
County Council Property	...	...	7	Dead Mice found	...	...	...	44
Hospital Board Property	...	...	3					

SEWER TREATMENT, 1950

First Treatment	Manholes Baited — 399	Baits Taken — 22
Second Treatment	Manholes Baited — 400	Baits Taken — 51

Work on the sewers has been carried out since 1944, the year of initial treatment, and since bi-annually, thirteen treatments in all, enabling full grants to be claimed and the effectiveness of regularly doing so is reflected by the low number of manholes found infested. The methods recommended by the Ministry are applied, and your Rodent Operative, who has been in your employ since 1944, has always given satisfactory service.

Alderman Hughes and I continued our membership of the Rodent Advisory Committee of the South Wales area.

10. PRIVATE WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE BOROUGH ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT:

The following work was carried out at the expense of the Owners, by the Borough Engineer's Department, under the Public Health Act:

- (a) Cleansing of drains at 51 houses in 15 incidents occurring in 11 streets.
- (b) Renewing water service to two houses.
- (c) Providing and fixing grease-trap on combined drain which served business premises.

HOUSING

1. HOUSES UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION:

Demolition Orders were made in respect of:

- 15 Ritson Street, Briton Ferry, Neath.
- 45, 51 and 60 Lowther Street, Briton Ferry, Neath.
- 13 Bush Row, Neath.
- 36, 37 and 54 Penydre, Neath.

2. SLUM CLEARANCE :

Further progress was made in displacements from Slum Clearance Areas, subject to confirmed Orders. There are a considerable number still in occupation, the position being aggravated by the high rentals of new houses, the marriage of children who stay at home, their wives and young children with them, and local employment being readily available.

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS, UNDER PROGRAMMES

(Position at 31st December, 1950)

A. Clearance Areas :

Number of houses which have been demolished	230
Number of persons displaced	1,273

B. Other Insanitary Houses :

Number of dwelling houses demolished as a result of formal procedure under Section 11	46
Number of persons displaced	181
Number of dwelling houses closed but not demolished as a result of Undertaking (which have not yet been cancelled) by Owners under Section 11, not to use the house for human habitation	32
Number of persons displaced	133
Underground rooms and parts of buildings closed under Section 12	16
Number of persons displaced	55
Number of dwelling houses made fit as a result of formal Notices under Sections 2—12	16

In addition, the Council erected 50 houses on the Cimla Site as their first Scheme in connection with de-crowding. In the first movement during 1938, 50 families of 347 persons were properly housed.

OVERCROWDING, 1950 Particulars of Overcrowding :

TABLE 1. Overcrowding Records :

Ward.	1936		1950	
	Families.	Persons	Families	Persons
North	186		69	364
South	142		57	329
Briton Ferry	84		32	179
Council Houses	25		21	150
	<hr/> 437	<hr/> 2,553	<hr/> 179	<hr/> 1,022

TABLE 2: New Cases During the Year :

Ward.	Families.	Persons.
North	3	17
South	5	27
Briton Ferry	2	10
Council Houses	4	20
	<hr/> 14	<hr/> 74
	<hr/> 33	<hr/>

TABLE 3. Reasons for New Cases of Overcrowding :

Sub-tenants	...	...	...	...	...	...	Families	5
Natural increases in Family	...	...	...	...	...	...		9
								—
								14
								—

TABLE 4. De-crowded Families, 1950 :

Ward.	Families.					Persons.
North	1	6
South	0	0
Briton Ferry	2	15
Council Houses	2	9
					—	—
					5	30
					—	—

TABLE 5. Abatement of Overcrowding :

	Council Houses	North	South	Briton Ferry
Removal of Sub-tenant ...	0	0	0	1
Transferred to Council Property	2	1	0	1
	—	—	—	—
	2	1	0	2
	—	—	—	—

TABLE 6. Position of Overcrowded Houses, 31st December, 1950 :

Ward	Houses	Persons in houses	Families Overcrowded	Persons Involved
North	108	478	69	364
South	85	412	57	329
Briton Ferry	48	223	32	179
Council Houses	30	173	21	150
	—	—	—	—
	271	1286	179	1022
	—	—	—	—

OCCUPATION OF A.T.S. CAMP AT DWRYFELIN

These huts have been occupied since they were vacated by the A.T.S. in 1946. They are managed by the Local Authority, and the occupation has been regularised. In the interests of Public Health, the sooner these are cleared the better, the fabric was never intended to be permanent, and their emergency cover should be ended. There are 12 huts occupied by 12 families, comprising 59 persons.

TRESPASSERS IN CONDEMNED HOUSES

The position was that 23 families remained in occupation of condemned houses as trespassers.

HOUSING STATISTICS, 1950

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the Year :

(i)	Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health and Housing Acts)	1377
(ii)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	4015
(iii)	Number of dwelling houses (included under (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	8
(iv)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	8
(v)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	8
(vi)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	472

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without the service of Formal Notices :

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	81
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	0
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
1.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	472
2.	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices:	
(i)	By owners	468
(ii)	By Local Authority	0
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936	8
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 ...	0

4. Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding :

(a)	1. Number of dwelling houses overcrowded at the end of the year	179
	2. Number of families dwelling therein	271
	3. Number of persons dwelling therein	1286
(b)	1. Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	14
	2. Number of persons concerned in such cases	74
(c)	1. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	5
	2. Number of persons concerned with such cases	30
(d)	1. Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	0

5. Eradication of Bed Bugs :

1. Number of Council houses found to be:	
(a) Infested	1
(b) Disinfested	1
2. Number of other houses found to be:	
(a) Infested	9
(b) Disinfested	9

The methods available for the elimination of the bed bug are, briefly, by the use of fumigants and sprays. Of the fumigants, Hydrogen Cyanide is still rated high, and disinfestation of any infested house by same calls for caution and skill. Great strides have been made through the experience of war in the development and use of insecticides, notably D.D.T., and it is now possible to achieve excellent results by their use. The procedure carried out in the Borough is fumigation by "Thermatox" where premises can be vacated, and spraying with approved insecticides containing D.D.T. and Pyrethrum, in other cases.

GENERAL

1. HOUSING :

Further progress was made in the erection of houses, and 19 traditional type were completed by the Council, and 6 by other Bodies or Persons. There are still 124 families in occupation of houses subject to Slum Clearance Orders, 23 families squatting in condemned houses which were once vacated, and 12 families at the A.T.S. Camp, Dwryfelin. It was possible to carry out more extensive repairs to dwelling houses as a result of relaxed conditions in Building Licences. On the subject of "planning," priority should be given for the provision of new houses, but not at the expense of the repair of fairly sound existing houses, the maintenance of which is dependent upon the release of material and labour, and the shortage should be looked upon as a challenge rather than a frustration. The housing planners have many difficult problems, and the Local Authority should be encouraged to build for all sections of the people, and it is pleasing that the odious expression of "working classes" has been removed from the Housing Act. There is complete co-operation between the Department and the House-letting Department, on whose behalf investigation into conditions of housing-applicants were made and reported upon.

2. FOOD POISONING :

There was no case of Food Poisoning reported during 1950.

3. NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS :

(a) Ten cases of non-pulmonary Tuberculosis were investigated at the request of the Medical Officer of Health. This has been the routine procedure for a number of years, and has met with success in the discovery of infected cows in dairy herds, from which the milk supply has come. A complete link-up exists between the Department and the State Veterinary Service and the Public Health Laboratory, and include milk-sampling, and notification of condemned carcasses with the veterinary history of casualties, rejects and other animals.

(a) **POLIOMYELITIS:** Enquiries were made into three notified cases of Poliomyelitis, and special reports submitted to the Medical Officer of Health.

4. SPECIAL FEATURES:

(a) **Food and Drugs:** The Council, on the 28th March, 1950, made Byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, in connection with the handling of food, confirmed by the Minister of Food on the 22nd June, 1950, and came into operation on the 24th July, 1950.

(b) **The Food Substitutes (Control) Order, 1941:** This Order was revoked on the 11th June, 1950. The improved supply position justified its abandonment, and these matters are now dealt with under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and Regulations made thereunder.

(c) **Food Standards:** The Food Standards Committee, appointed by the Minister of Food in 1948, published standards for 11 more foods, and substances used in the preparation of food, making sixteen to date.

(d) **Graded Milks:** It will be noted that 34 Licences for the sale of graded milk were issued, compared with 11 for 1949, and it was possible to obtain any grade of milk specified by the Regulations. The establishment of the mart for the sale of tuberculin-tested cattle is another indication of the progress made in the production of pure milk. An examination of the table on the testing of milk shows that only six out of 131 submitted—4.5 per cent., were sub-standard, which was highly satisfactory.

(e) **Slaughtering:** The number of animals slaughtered, 61,460, was slightly below the previous year, 62,316, and the decrease, in sheep only, was attributed to the opening of Cwrt Herbert Slaughterhouse in October, 1950. The table on *Cysticercus Bovis* infestation shows that 21 cases have been discovered during meat inspection and that they were from many collecting centres.

(f) **Ice-Cream Shops:** There was a steady increase in the number of ice-cream shops, 85 in 1950 as compared with 72 in 1949. The methods of examination are experimental, and the grading provisional, and there has been a steady improvement in the quality sold, unsatisfactory samples in 1950, 19 per cent.; as compared with 1947, 60 per cent.

(g) **Rodent Control:** The "Prevention of Damage by Pests" Act, 1949, came into operation on the 31st March, 1950. It repeals the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, and makes permanent provision for preventing loss of food by infestation by rats, mice, insects or mites.

(h) **Locust Infestation.** A mature locust was discovered in a consignment of Italian Broccoli. It was kept alive and presented to the National Museum of Wales for preservation.

(i) **Work Carried Out by Borough Engineer's Department:** There was an increase in the amount of work done by the Borough Engineer's Department, at the request of Owners, under the Public Health Act, and such service was greatly appreciated.

(j) **Atmospheric Pollution.** The recording of rainfall, solids collected and sulphur deposited, was continued for the twelve months, January-December, 1950, the apparatus used being of standard and approved type. Special examinations were made by the Public Health Laboratory, and covered the first fourteen months, November, 1949—December, 1950, noted on special forms, supplied by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, to whom copies were sent for inclusion in their monthly "Summary of Observations" which is distributed as a Bulletin to co-operating bodies, the Council being a Member. There are two organisations functioning in the abatement of smoke, fumes and grit, viz., The National Smoke Abatement Society, of which the Council is also a Member. Cardiff was the only other Authority in Wales who were recording until you decided to join, and it is to be noted that three more have now decided to do so, an indication of the increasing interest being taken in Atmospheric Pollution in the South Wales region.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Summary of Recordings, 1949 (Part) and 1950:

Year	Month	Rainfall (Inches)	Total Solids in Tons per sq. mile	Sulphur (SO ₃) Max. Day Pollution per 1,000 sq. cms.	Interpre- tation
1949	November	6.45	20.60	10.6	"B"
"	December	5.22	28.30	12.6	"B"
1950	January	1.69	14.03	8.5	"B"
"	February	7.31	23.86	9.8	"B"
"	March	2.97	9.87	6.9	"A"
"	April	4.19	17.99	8.0	"B"
"	May	1.57	9.63	4.4	"A"
"	June	2.63	11.70	3.6	"A"
"	July	5.46	15.44	3.6	"B"
"	August	9.65	16.71	4.5	"B"
"	September	9.65	33.05	8.8	"B"
"	October	3.42	15.44	9.9	"B"
"	November	7.28	14.27	9.6	"B"
"	December	3.72	9.70	10.2	"A"

These results, for practical purposes, are interpreted as:

"A"	...	...	...	Clean
"B"	...	...	...	Fairly Clean
"C"	...	...	...	Dirty
"D"	...	...	...	Very Dirty

For the fourteen months under review, four months were considered to be "A" and ten months as "B", which were satisfactory, having regard for the industrial nature of the Borough.

I desire to express my thanks to the Members of the Council, the Medical Officer and the Staff of the Department and Officials of the Corporation for their assistance throughout the year.

I am, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

EVAN THOMAS,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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